

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on January 10, 2011 has been entered.

Hence, this Office action responds to the amendment and arguments filed by applicant on January 10, 2011, in reply to the previous Office action on the merits, mailed October 13, 2010.

Prosecution History Summary

- Claims 37- 66 and 69 are pending in the current application.
- Claims 37, 42 and 69 were amended on January 10, 2011.
- Claims 1-36, 67, 68 and 70 were previously cancelled.
- Claims 37, 54 and 64 are amended on February 09, 2012.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to the applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Douglas R. Hanscom (Ph: 703-684-3360) on February 09, 2012.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims

The amendments of claims 37- 66 and 69 in the reply filed on January 10, 2011 are considered as the base line set for claims 37- 66 and 69.

Additionally, claims 37, 54 and 64 have been amended as follows:

Independent **claim 37** recites:

A method for storing unprepared rolls of material and prepared rolls of material for use in roll changers in a web-fed rotary printing machine including:

providing a stock retention reception area ~~for~~;

receiving rolls of material for use in said web-fed rotary printing machine in said stock reception area;

providing a depot for receiving adapted to receive selected ones of said rolls roles of material from said stock reception area;

providing a defined number of roll storage spaces in said depot;

locating selected ones of said roll storage spaces in said depot adjacent said web-fed rotary printing machine;

providing transferring prepared rolls of material and unprepared rolls of material received from said stock retention reception area in to separate ones of said defined storage spaces in said depot;

providing a material flow system for said web-fed rotary printing machine;

providing an implemented logic device for managing said material flow system;

providing said material flow system with production-relevant data for a planned production run of said web-fed rotary printing machine;

providing a depot management system in said depot and having knowledge of properties of said prepared rolls of material and said unprepared rolls of material located in said ones of said defined roll storage spaces in said depot;

determining, in a first partial process of said material flow system, a production-oriented storage strategy for using said rolls of material located in said storage spaces in said depot using said production-relevant data for said planned production run;

checking, in a second partial process of said material flow system, information on said occupancy, in said ones of said defined storage spaces in said depot of said unprepared rolls of material and said prepared rolls of material located in said defined storage spaces;

using said production-oriented storage strategy and said information on said positioning of said unprepared rolls of material and said prepared rolls of material in occupancy in said depot and repositioning said rolls of material in said depot for optimizing delivery of said prepared rolls of material from said depot to said roll changers of said web-fed rotary printing machine during operation of said web-fed rotary printing machine by positioning said prepared rolls of material in said selected ones of said depot roll storage spaces adjacent said web-fed rotary printing machine and for optimizing preparing of previously unprepared rolls of material for their preparation and subsequent delivery to said roll changers of said web-fed rotary printer machine as prepared rolls of material from said depot, by positioning said unprepared rolls of material in other ones of said depot roll storage spaces, all in accordance with said production-oriented storage strategy[[.]]; and

delivering said prepared rolls of material from said depot to said roll changers of said web-fed rotary printing machine using said material flow system.

Dependent **claim 54** recites:

The method of claim 52 further including repositioning ~~redepositing~~ unprepared ones of said rolls of material for preparation of said rolls of materials in an access area of said second serving element.

Dependent **claim 64** recites:

The method of claim 37 further including providing one of a computing unit and a data processing unit in said material flow system and forwarding one of production-relevant data and use data regarding planned production from a production planning system to said one of said computing unit and said data processing unit.

Allowance

Claims 37-66 and 69 are allowed.

Applicant's arguments, remarks and amendments filed on January 10, 2011 were considered and they are persuasive.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for the allowance of these claims in this case is the inclusion of the limitations of, using said production-oriented storage strategy and said information on said positioning of said unprepared rolls of material and said prepared rolls of material in occupancy

in said depot and repositioning said rolls of material in said depot for optimizing delivery of said prepared rolls of material from said depot to said roll changers of said web-fed rotary printing machine during operation of said web-fed rotary printing machine by positioning said prepared rolls of material in said selected ones of said depot roll storage spaces adjacent said web-fed rotary printing machine and for optimizing preparing of previously unprepared rolls of material for their preparation and subsequent delivery to said roll changers of said web-fed rotary printer machine as prepared rolls of material from said depot, by positioning said unprepared rolls of material in other ones of said depot roll storage spaces, all in accordance with said production-oriented storage strategy, included in claim 37, which is not found in prior art of record.

Costanza (US 6,594,535) discloses material flow design system for a mixed-model demand flow manufacturing line. The material flow system utilizes a replenishment card/replenishment container system of material management. The material flow design system defines the size of replenishment containers and the location of material deduct points in the production path.

However, Costanza fails to disclose a method for optimizing delivery of said prepared rolls of material from said depot to said roll changers of said web-fed rotary printing machine during operation of said web-fed rotary printing machine by positioning said prepared rolls of material in said selected ones of said depot roll storage spaces adjacent said web-fed rotary printing machine and for optimizing preparing of previously unprepared rolls of material for their preparation and subsequent delivery to said roll changers of said web-fed rotary printer machine as prepared rolls of material from said depot.

Ohno et al. (US 4,803,634) discloses a system for a news printing system using rotary presses comprising a press control subsystem and delivery control subsystem. the production process control systems and the control subsystems can execute necessary data processing while communicating with each other. The production process control system can supervise and control the processing carried out by each of said other control subsystems. Ohno fails to teach the deficiency of Costanza.

Furthermore, neither the prior art, the nature of the system, nor knowledge of a person having ordinary skill in the art, provide any reasonable rationale to combine prior art teachings.

The dependent claims 38-66 and 69 are allowable over the prior art based on the dependence on the independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROKIB MASUD whose telephone number is (571)270-5390. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY TO THURSDAY 9.00 AM TO 5.00 PM (EASTERN TIME).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, MATTHEW S. GART can be reached on (571)272-3955. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/R. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 3687

/Matthew S Gart/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3687